

# Southeast News

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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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## Church Presents Gift To Black Community

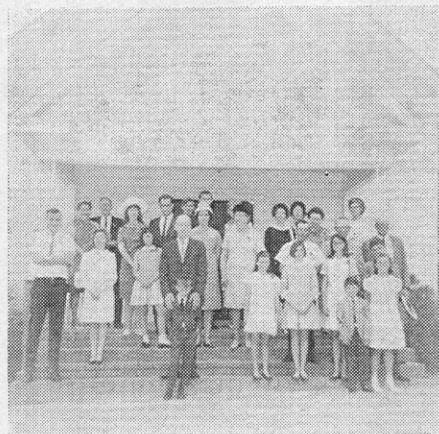
The United Church on the Green in New Haven Connecticut has given a gift of \$10,000 to New Haven's Black Coalition. Presentation of the check was made by Mrs. Clarence Bronson, chairman of the church's committee on missions. The gift was given by a unanimous vote of the committee with no strings attached.

For months the church had been trying to find a way to represent its concern for and its profound faith in the black community. The newly organized Black Coalition, an all-black organization representing all levels and facets of the black community, was the answer.

Praising the aims of the organization, Mrs. Bronson stated, "Now, with the formation of a highly representative and responsible coalition, we believe the black community can move ahead with vigor."

Heritage Hall serves as custodian for all funds received by the Black Coalition. Representing them in financial matters are the Reverend Edward Geyer of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, and Herbert Scott, an attorney in New Haven.

The Rev. David E. Weinland is minister of the United Church on the Green.



## Report Of Rev. F. C. Lester

The provision of a lovely, completely furnished parsonage and part-time salary by New Hope Church, Rt. 1, Clio, Alabama, made possible the experiment of having Rev. F. C. Lester work in the South Alabama-Northwest Florida Association during May and June. The Association executive committee arranged for travel expenses.

Pictured above are some who were present at New Hope on Mother's Day, which was an "extra" service for that church, regular services being held on the first and third Sunday mornings. One Sunday evening in June, Dr. Lester showed slides of his trip around the world visiting our missions. On another, a discussion of future plans for the church resulted in an expressed desire to have someone live in the parsonage and serve the church "full-time."

A visit to all the churches of the Association was made by Dr. Lester with the moderator, Rev. Otto Culpepper, serving as guide and Rev. and Mrs. Andy Anderson serving as hosts. During the two months, services were held at Pyron's Chapel and New Ef-

(Continued on Page 3)

## Conference Board Of Directors Meet July 17

The Board of Directors of the Southeast Conference met July 17 at the First Congregational Church, 105 Courtland Street, NE, Atlanta, Ga.

## The Financial Picture Of Southeast Conference Is Not Too Good

At the end of the first six months of 1968, the financial picture of the Southeast Conference is not good. Our churches have given to Basic Support of Our Christian World Mission a total of \$19,027.72, plus \$2,210.92 for other support throughout the world. It is hoped that the churches will give at least a total of \$53,750 for the year, which means that we are far short of the halfway mark.

The Southeast Conference office has received from all other sources, such as the Board for Homeland Ministries and the Division of Christian Education, during these first six months, a total of \$48,005.68, making a total income for the first six months of 1968 of \$69,244.32.

Total disbursements for the same period were \$65,114.09, or \$4,130.23 less than received. There was one item in the receipt column for \$5,000 which was simply a reimbursement for the down payment which the Conference had made on the new church house at Bonanza. This tells us that we lacked approximately \$870 receiving enough for the disbursements.

On July 1, 1968, the Conference had on hand:

Unrestricted Funds	\$5,187.58
Restricted Funds	5,259.39

If all bills were paid, most of the Unrestricted Funds would be gone. In addition, we have sent only one payment to the treasury of the United Church for O. C. W. M. funds in 1968 and we should have sent another payment of some \$2,500.

It is hoped that the churches will send their O. C. W. M. funds regularly, such as monthly or quarterly. Several churches send monthly checks just as if they were paying the pastor's salary. We are grateful for the generosity of some and we are anxious about the poor giving of others.

W. J. Andes

## **Mayor Of Nazareth Speaks In Birmingham**

Pilgrim Congregational Church, Birmingham, Alabama, introduced Miss Tieily, the mayor of Nazareth, to the Alabama community in a service of worship involving the four major faiths. Before the mayor spoke, the following participated: The Reverend Father Joseph Allen, St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church; the Reverend Father Stroerios Gouvelis, Holy Trinity - Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church; Rabbi Dr. Milton Grafman, Temple Emanu-El; and the Reverend S. Lawrence Johnson of Pilgrim Church.

## **NCC Board Calls For 'Life Long' Sex Education**

Sex education is as necessary for adults as it is for children, the General Board of the National Council of Churches said in a policy statement which has also been endorsed by the Synagogue Council of America and the U. S. Catholic Conference.

The first statement on sex education ever approved by Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, and Orthodox groups called it "a life-long task whose aim it is to help individuals develop their sexuality in a manner suited to their stage of life."

It also said that "sexual intercourse within marriage offers the greatest possibility for personal fulfillment and social growth."

### **ORDER NOW**

Sample promotional materials for the Neighbors in Crisis Fall All-Church Offering are included in the Stewardship Council 1968 Fall packet which is being mailed early in July. You are urged to place orders for this material at once.

### **NOTHING NEW**

The assistant minister of First Congregational Church in Glen Ellyn, Ill., the Reverend Ronald D. Hutchinson, gave a written exam to his confirmation class. One of the questions was, "What is the name of the denomination to which our congregation belongs?" One member of the class wrote, "Our congregation belongs to the United Church of Crisis."

## **CWS 1968 Blanket Appeal Is Increased**

Church World Service expects to be called upon to furnish 300,000 blankets in 1968.

"This is the first year in the 21-year history of Church World Service that we anticipate being able to meet every responsible request for blankets," states James MacCracken, executive director of the organization.

Last year, Church World Service was able to ship only 70,000 blankets. This year, as of May 31, 57,300 blankets have been shipped overseas to persons in need in 16 countries.

Church World Service is the inter-denominational agency through which major Protestant and Eastern Orthodox communions carry on cooperative, world-wide programs of service to the hungry, homeless and disaster-stricken.

### **Area Laity Workshops**

The Commission on Lay Life and Work proposes the following area meetings to acquaint lay leaders of our churches with materials that can be used in all of the churches, especially in the study of "The Local Church in God's Mission," and to develop leadership abilities:

June 24 — Andalusia First  
July 28 — Chattanooga, First  
Birmingham, First  
Huntsville, United  
Montgomery, First  
Roanoke, First  
Pine Mountain, Oak  
Grove  
Thomasville, Bethany

Aug. 11 — Charleston, Plymouth

Most of these meetings will begin at 3:00 p. m. on the days indicated. These Area Meetings should be within reach of all of our churches.

### **Mt. Grove Is Building**

Without the services of a regular pastor and under the part-time ministry of Dr. Guy Colbert, the Mt. Grove Church at Hanceville has torn down the old church building and has under roof the new church building. Although the building is not yet complete, the church uses it while continuing the construction.

The building is being constructed on a pay-as-you-go basis; it is through the continued efforts and labors of the members that the building is being erected.

## **Facts Concerning The Southeast Conference**

The 1968 Year Book of the United Church of Christ lists the following facts about the United Church of Christ Churches in Southeast Conference:

Total churches	— 91
Total members	— 9,419
Number confirmed in 1967	— 87
Members added by confession of faith	— 149
Members added by transfer of membership	— 203
Total added 1967	— 439
Members removed by death or transfer	— 249
Members removed for other reasons	— 202
Total removed	— 451
Net change in 1967	— loss of 12
Average church membership	— 104
Church school enrollment	— 5,386

### **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

#### **Our Christian World Mission:**

Conference	— \$33,743
National	— \$14,461
Total	— \$48,204
Other Support	— \$5,916
Other Gifts	— \$15,901
Grand Total	— \$70,021
Per Capita Missions	— \$7.43

#### **Local Church Expenses:**

Current	— \$577,107
Capital Payments	\$135,471
Total	— \$712,578

**TOTAL CHURCH SUPPORT**—\$782,599  
**Per Capita Total Church Support**—\$3.09

**NOTE:** The above does not include the 36 churches in Schedules I and II, under "Congregational Christian Churches Standing Only."

## **Board For World Ministries Meets In Greensboro Nov. 10-14**

The United Church Board for World Ministries will hold its 1968 Annual Meeting in Greensboro, North Carolina November 10-14.

Approximately 300 will be in attendance, including the 225 corporate members of the BWM and some 50 staff persons from the Board and other United Church agencies.

A large number of missionaries and other representatives of the B. W. M. will speak in the churches of the Southern Conference on Sunday, November 10.

Report Of Rev. F. C. Lester  
(Continued from Page 1)

fort in Florida, and at Blackwoods and Antioch Churches in Alabama. In addition, Dr. Lester showed mission slides at the Association Youth Rally at Blackwoods June 8, and at the Laity Workshop at First, Andalusia, June 23.

Forty-five people from 9 churches were present for the Laity Workshop with Arthur Wallace of the host church serving as chairman. Representatives from that church, Antioch, Good Hope, Blackwoods, and New Hope provided the program. A delicious "snack" was enjoyed by all.

For health reasons, Dr. Lester returned to his home in North Carolina at the end of June, with the expectation of returning to the Southeast Conference in September. Russell Teal, a member of New Hope, who is in care of the Association with the expectation that he will secure training to become a minister, spoke at New Hope July 7. Dr. W. J. Andes, Conference Minister, was the speaker for homecoming July 14. That evening, Chaplain (Col.) Ervin L. Shirey of Ft. Rucker began revival services.

**Birmingham First Church  
Is Planning To Build**

With Church school classes meeting in the sanctuary, the narthex, the pastor's study, the choir room, and other small spaces, the First Church, Birmingham, is planning an addition to their present facilities.

Reverend Andrew L. Cooper is the new pastor. He and his family are enjoying the new parsonage near the church building. Although the church still owes some \$15,000 on the parsonage, the members feel that they must begin a new building to house not only Church School classes, but also groups of the community such as the Golden Age Club, literacy classes, and various youth groups.

The committees of the church are studying its present needs and developing a proposed program that is community-wide in its planning. The church's program will be presented to an architect who will endeavor to plan a building to suit the program.

**Revivals In N. Alabama**

Mt. Grove, Hanceville, Aug. 11-16, 1968  
Rev. Bobby Aderholt, guest preacher  
Garden City, August 25-30, 1968  
Rev. George Fidler, guest preacher

**Giving Of SE Conference Churches To OCWM,  
January To June – BASIC SUPPORT ONLY**

**ALABAMA:**

Alpine, King's Chapel	30.00	Braselton, Macedonia	0
Andalusia, Antioch	0	Bristol, Antioch	0
Andalusia, First	0	Buford, Duncan's Creek	0
Arley, Robertson's Chapel	16.00	Columbus, First	0
Athens, Trinity	0	Columbus, United	0
Birmingham, First	472.95	Crest, Hebron	0
Birmingham, Pilgrim	0	Demorest, Federated	100.00
Birmingham, St. John's	107.85	Doerun, New Light	0
Brantley, Indian Creek	0	Doerun, Poplar Arbor	0
Brantley, Liberty	0	Douglas, First	0
Caddo, Cong'l Christian	50.00	Enigma, Christian	0
Clio, New Hope	0	Gaillard, Pleasant Hill	0
Cullman, St. John's	337.40	Hampton, County Line	0
East Tallassee, C. C.	225.00	LaGrange, United	379.25
Eclectic, Watson's Ch.	0	Macon, First	0
Garden City, Cong'l	100.00	Meansville, First	0
Hackleburg, Fairview	0	McIntosh, Midway	0
Haleyville, Union Grove	0	Pearson, Union Hill	0
Hanceville, Mt. Grove	30.00	Richland, First	0
Headland, Blackwood	146.85	Richland, Providence Ch.	0
Houston, Liberty Hill	0	Savannah, First	42.82
Huntsville, United	460.61	Thomasville, Bethany	26.00
Marion, First	40.00	Tifton, First (Inactive)	0
Midland City, Chr. Hill (Inactive)	45.20	Tifton, Vanceville	0
Montgomery, First	562.00	Waycross, Williams Chapel	135.00
Montgomery, United	0	Woodbury, Jones Chapel	0
Moulton, Jones Chapel	0		
Mt. Creek, Union	0		
Selma, First	10.00	<b>KENTUCKY:</b>	
Seman, Community	0	Evarts, First	180.00
Steele, Mt. Lebanon	0	Stearns, Community	0
Tallassee, Mt. Olive	60.00	<b>MISSISSIPPI:</b>	
Talladega, First	100.00	Tougaloo, Union	175.00
Town Creek, Old Liberty	0		
Wetumpka, Balm of Gilead	0		

**EAST ALABAMA ASSOCIATION**

(For Balance of 1967)	4,152.20
(FOR 1968)	2,000.00

**FLORIDA:**

Baker, Good Hope	0
Baker, Pyron's Chapel	0
Bonifay, New Effort	0

**GEORGIA:**

Ambrose, Christian	20.00
Atlanta, Carroll Heights	0
Atlanta, Center (Inactive)	0
Atlanta, Central	3,250.04
Atlanta, First	600.00
Atlanta, Rush Memorial	0
Barnesville, Fredonia	100.00
Baxley, Friendship	0
Beachton, Evergreen	100.00
Bowman, Liberty	0

**TENNESSEE:**

Belvidere, First	0
Chattanooga, First	47.00
Chattanooga, Pilgrim	2,270.00
Crossville, First	203.75
Daisy, Cong'l Christian	0
Deer Lodge, Cong'l Chr.	33.80
Glenmary, Cong'l Chr.	50.00
Knoxville, First	60.25
Nashville, Brookmeade	200.00
Nashville, First	925.00
Nashville, Fisk Union	0
Nashville, Howard	0
Pleasant Hill, Community	950.00
Robbins, Barton Chapel	70.00
Soddy, First (Inactive)	0
Sweetwater, First	168.00
<b>TOTAL THROUGH 6/30/68</b>	<b>19,312.72</b>

## Lait-E-Vent At Bonanza

Laymen and laywomen of Georgia and South Carolina met at the new United Church in Bonanza, Jonesboro, Ga., on Saturday, June 22, 1968. The two existing women's groups prepared to unite by nominating as officers:

President — Miss Helen Toliver  
V.-Pres. — Mrs. Malcolm Pittman  
Secretary — Mrs. John Williams  
Treasurer — Miss Frances Exum

Retiring president, Mrs. Karlton Johnson, presided over a program which featured a keynote address, "My Church to the World With Love," by Rev. Karlton C. Johnson, Southern Regional Secretary of the Stewardship Council. This was followed by discussion groups under leadership of Mrs. E. L. Askren, Mrs. Edward Driscoll, and Mr. Gus Furlong. These proved so lively that it was difficult to stop for the excellent lunch, served by the host church.

Mrs. Molly Curtright, also a retiring president, presided over a brief business meeting and then introduced Rev. Emilie Pitcock, Conference Minister of Christian Education, who spoke of "New Tools for Local Churches." This included a review of the book "Crisis in America" and the use of the new filmstrip, "Is Your Church Burning?" The Minister of the Southeast Conference, Dr. W. J. Andes, then spoke on the topic "The Local Church in God's Mission," detailing ways in which church groups could participate in the current emphasis study. Mrs. Edward Brown, former chairman for Lay Life and Work in the Conference, spoke on "Digging Gold with the Jolly Green Giant." She detailed ways in which local churches could use Program Opportunities.

The evening program was given by a Senior High group from First Church, Atlanta, led by Rev. Donald Daughtry. Three short skits portraying problems facing youth today were given, followed by discussion. The program closed with an unusual "celebration" by the youth.

About 50 people representing six churches, including Charleston, Plymouth, attended. Rev. Floyd Carmack is pastor of the host church, which entertained a church group for the first time very successfully.

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## The 1968-1969 United Church Emphasis Could Revolutionize Congregation

"The Local Church in God's Mission" is the theme of the 1968-1969 Emphasis which congregations of the United Church of Christ are seriously considering.

THE GREAT CONVICTION which underlies the Emphasis on "The Local Church in God's Mission" is that the local church is the chief carrier of the story of God's loving concern for the welfare of all mankind and the dignity and destiny of every human being.

THE EMPHASIS PURPOSE is "that each local church sharpen its discernment of the call of God in the present world, in the gospel, and in its own life, and make faithful response to that call through its distinctive mission."

THE EMPHASIS PROCESS is planning — planning for action, not just spinning the wheels. The Emphasis intends the building of planning into our churches' style of life — not as a program that will last only the two years of the Emphasis, but permanently.

SIX MAJOR COMPONENTS are seen in the planning process: identity clarification, situation definition, self-study, new action, evaluation, and celebration. Less technically put, they are:

Who are we as a church?

Where are we?

What are we doing?

What new behavior do we propose?

How are we doing?

How do we rejoice?

FOUR MAJOR SKILLS are seen as necessary to adequate planning: the skill of sharing leadership and responsibility; the skill of making conflict creative, rewarding enough so that conflict is no longer resisted as evil; the skill of encouraging trust and thus honesty; and the skill of facilitating communication and thus dialogue.

The context of the Emphasis is God's Mission. The mission is God's and He intends the redemption of the whole world. He is the God of the Exodus, working to free man from all captivity and bondage. Our task is to participate in His mission, to join God in the world He loves. Each congregation is under mandate to discover and fulfill God's specific assignment where people are lonely, searching for meaning, hungry, blind, lame, longing for peace, needing deliverance from whatever cripples and imprisons their spirits.

THE THEOLOGICAL GROUND OF

## O. C. W. M. Commission Has Meeting In Atlanta

The "Our Christian World Mission" Commission of the Southeast Conference met June 14 at the Southeast Conference office in Atlanta, Ga.

The Commission discussed the purposes and goals of the O. C. W. M. Commission, concluding that its major purposes are: (a) To keep before the Conference the total mission of the church and how congregations are related to this mission; (b) to get the churches to support the mission of the church; (c) to encourage stewardship in local churches through the Christian Enlistment program; (e) to help the local churches with their financial responsibilities, including fund raising, budget preparation, accounting procedures.

The Commission will seek to get the United Church Board for World Ministries to hold an international Seminar on Missions in the Southeast Conference during 1968-1969, and recommends that missionary speakers be obtained to work in local churches during February and March 1969.

The Commission discussed the program of Christian Enlistment and suggested that the Conference seek to have workshops in south, central, and north Alabama during the month of September.

The Commission discussed the Neighbors in Need offering.

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THE EMPHASIS is found in the Bible, our UCC Statement of Faith, and the rich resources of much contemporary writing such as that which derives from the World Council of Churches' study on The Missionary Structure of the Congregation."

...  
The Emphasis recognizes the truism that the world has changed and that if our churches are to be faithful, they must shape their lives around the needs of this present world.

—Facts; a publication of the United Church of Christ.

## YF Project Of Sharing

The East Alabama - West Georgia United Church Youth Fellowship is carrying through its project to send needed articles to the Indians of Eagle Butte, South Dakota.

Churches in the area are collecting books and clothing which will be packed for shipping at the next rally July 27-28 at the Oak Grove Church.

## North Alabama Plans Association Meet

Relaxing momentarily from a hot Sunday afternoon's planning session of the North Alabama Fall Association meeting are the moderator, Rev. Bobby Aderholt, Mrs. Aderholt, little Bobby Aderholt, and Rev. George Fidler, the new minister at St. John's Church in Cullman.

The planning session was held in the office of Dr. Guy Colbert, pastor-at-large for the Association.

The theme of the Association Meeting on October 5 at Old Liberty Grove Church, Town Creek, Alabama, will be "To the Glory of God." Ministers and lay people will discuss the 1968-69 Emphasis, "The Local Church in God's Mission," as part of the theme. Holy Communion will be observed after the first discussion period. Rev. George Fidler will preach the Association sermon in the afternoon.



## Huntsville New Building It Nearly Completed

The first unit of the new church building at Huntsville is scheduled to be completed by September 1968, and there is a possibility that the completion date may be before then.

The church members are getting ready to do much of the work themselves when it comes to finishing the rooms. The old farmhouse on the property will be used for some time yet to come, but will be torn down as soon as the new building can adequately house the functions of the church.

Reverend James Humphrey, pastor of the church, reports an enthusiastic response to the capital funds canvass made sometime ago. Approximately 93% of the pledges are paid and up to date.

This church and the Church of the Nativity (Episcopal) will cooperate in a training program for Church School

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## Dorchester Center Is Taking On New Look

Fourteen Senior High youth from as far away as Maine, Montana, and Texas, and as close as McIntosh and Savannah, Georgia, are busily working at Dorchester Center from July 1-14. Coming in at their own expense, supplemented by financial help from interested friends, these young people actually pay for the privilege of working. Several of them saved all year to help pay their way.

What are they doing at the Center? They are painting, repairing, washing windows, rebuilding the pump house, providing recreation for children of the area, and — you name it!

teachers and staff August 21-22. Both churches are anxious that every teacher be adequately prepared for the teaching ministry this fall.

The church cooperated with the nearby St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in a Vacation Church School June 13-17, with 116 enrolled. The school gave \$37 for Church World Service.

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## "Justice On The Spaceship Earth" 1968 Youth Week Theme

Despite the picture which comes through mass communication of youth as drug addicts, deviates and off-beats, there are many committed young people — even if sometimes deviant — who mean it when they give evidence of wanting to help the poor, to eliminate social and racial injustice, to seek to root out causes of poverty and hunger. And they want action now!

Using the 1968 YOUTH WEEK theme, "Justice on the Spaceship Earth," the teens will seek to arouse lethargic adults. YOUTH WEEK 1968 will be held between October 27 and November 3.

Order your YOUTH WEEK packet at once (\$2.50 per packet; postage paid, if cash or check accompanies order) from Department of Youth Ministry, National Council of Churches, P. O. Box 301, Madison Square Station, New York, N. Y. 10010.

## SEC Youth Officers Meet In Atlanta

A dialogue between SEC YOUTH officers and members of the Commission on Christian Education was one of the proposals by the former group as they met Saturday, July 6, at Central Church, Atlanta. The SEC YOUTH officers propose that such a dialogue be held September 21 when both groups will be meeting again.

Discussion centered also around the possibility of a weekend consultation and training session for association and regional youth officers and advisors. If response is favorable by youth officers and advisors, it is hoped to have this session possibly over Thanksgiving weekend, beginning on Friday evening and continuing until Sunday noon. Carmer Bassler, corresponding secretary, agreed to prepare a newsletter to be sent to local and regional youth groups to determine interest in such a weekend experience.

A start was made on plans for the Annual Meeting of SEC YOUTH to be held March 15-16, 1969. Since no invitations have been extended, a search will be made for a suitable place, either a local church or a motel, either with its own meeting room facilities or in conjunction with a nearby church.

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## Alabama-N. W. Florida Women Hold Retreat

The Annual Retreat of the Alabama-N. W. Florida Women's Fellowship was held at Southern Union State Junior College June 15-16. Mrs. W. Walter Hall, president, welcomed the women.

Mrs. Arthur Wallace and ladies of Andalusia First Church led an inspiring worship service from *New Ways For New Days*.

Greetings from the college were brought by Dean Carmichael.

The Rev. Wayne Peck, administrator of Uplands Retirement and Children's Center, discussed the book, *Doctor Woman*, which gives the history and background of Uplands (formerly the Cumberland General Hospital). He showed slides of the Center and its work and he encouraged visitors to Uplands. Overnight guests are welcome for a nominal fee.

Mrs. Fred Cameron of Pilgrim Church, Birmingham, invited the group to see the display of interesting items made by the people of the Haven of Hope in Hong Kong. The items were for sale and orders were taken.

Mrs. F. C. Lester presented the themes of study for the year: "New Forms of Mission;" POA theme, "Facing the New Day;" and the United Church of Christ Emphasis for 1968-1969, "The Local Church in God's Mission."

"Tigers by the Tail," a playlet on Southeast Asia, was presented by the women of the Lanett Church. Afterwards, the Rev. Miss Emilie Pitcock presented capsule reviews of Friendship Press materials on "Southeast Asia" and "New Forms of Missions."

The Family Thank Offering was explained by Mrs. Arthur Wallace, using the booklet, "With Heart; With Mind."

At the evening session, the group viewed a filmstrip, "People in Agony." "A New Look at Material Aid in the Southeast Conference" was discussed by Mrs. Edward Borwn.

Sunday morning, the Reverend Allen Hollis discussed "The Local Church in God's Mission" and the group saw a filmstrip, "World Come of Age."

The Wadley Christian Church was the scene of the morning worship service. The Rev. Jesse Dollar brought the

## Several Camps, Conferences Are Still Available

Several registrations have already been received at the Southeast Conference office for the Junior High Conference to be held at Dorchester Center, McIntosh, Ga., July 28 - August 4, under the co-direction of Mrs. Carl Sanford and Miss Dorothy DeVillars.

Also at Dorchester Center will be a Senior High Weekend from Friday evening (beginning with supper), July 26, through Sunday noon dinner, July 28.

By the time the *Southeast News* reaches you, the Junior High Camp at Anderson Creek in north Alabama will already be in session under the co-direction of Rev. James E. Humphrey of Huntsville and Rev. Gordon Ripper of Decatur.

Other opportunities still ahead are a Senior High Conference at Maryville College, Tenn., August 4 - 10, and an Interdenominational Senior Camp at Ozone, Tenn., Aug. 5-10.

And don't forget the Black Mountain Trail Camp for senior highs, August 10-24, co-directed by Rev. John Roemer and Mr. John Pline.

For further information contact the Southeast Conference office.

## Sommer Is Appointed Assistant To President

The Rev. Otto E. Sommer, minister of Kirkwood United Church of Christ, St. Louis, Mo., has been named an assistant to the president of the United Church of Christ.

He will take up his new post in New York in September and will share responsibilities in the president's office with the Rev. Dr. Robert F. R. Peters and the Rev. Dr. Jack E. Yates.

Mr. Sommer will assist the president in ecumenical relationships, in accordance with the recommendation of the Sixth General Synod that an additional assistant be secured for work in this area.

message on "The Local Church in God's Mission." The closing dedication service was led by Mr. F. C. Lester following lunch.

## Atlanta Church Is Challenged By Its Youth

The Senior High Youth Fellowship of the First Congregational Church, Atlanta, challenged the congregation to become significantly involved in the crises facing mankind today.

The challenge was presented at the morning worship service, June 30, which the Youth Fellowship conducted.

The Litany, written by Miss Margaret Simon, focused the congregation's attention on the problems confronting mankind and on the youth of the church who are prepared to participate in the church's efforts toward ameliorating the problems.

Following a panel discussion by the youths the congregation was asked for its comments and questions. And a lively dialogue between the youths and the adults ensued.

The closing hymn was written by Paula and Michael Caruthers who are members of the group. The words, which follow, are sung to the tune of "This Land Is Your Land."

CHORUS: This church is your church;  
this church is my church.  
From the preacher's pulpit to the  
church's door steps,  
From stain-glass window to stain-glass  
window,  
This church was made for you and me.

1  
As I went walking that ribbon of carpet  
I saw above me symbolic crosses.  
I saw around me those sacred benches.  
This church was made for you and me.

2  
The sun came shining and I was praying.  
The organ was playing and the choir  
was singing,  
As burdens were lifting, a voice was  
chanting,  
This church is made of you and me.

The Board of Deacons, meeting the following evening, voted to officially commend the Youth Fellowship and to state to them that their challenge was well taken and that the church would follow through on their creative proposals.

The Rev. Homer McEwen is pastor.